UST SYSTEM RELEASE RESPONSE AND INITIAL ABATEMENT REQUIREMENTS OUTLINE



ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK BRANCH 81 C. MICHAEL DAVENPORT BLVD FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 (502) 564-5981 (800) 928-7782

AUGUST 2006

UST SYSTEM RELEASE RESPONSE AND INITIAL ABATEMENT REQUIREMENTS OUTLINE

Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet
Division of Waste Management
Underground Storage Tank Branch
81 C. Michael Davenport Blvd.
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-5981
(800) 928-7782

INTRODUCTION

Owners and operators of underground storage tank (UST) system(s) regulated by 401 KAR Chapter 42 shall, in response to a confirmed UST system release, comply with this outline in order to protect human health, safety and the environment.

This outline is provided to assist owner/operators and contractor/consultants in complying with UST system release response requirements in 401 KAR 42:060. Refer to 401 KAR 42:250 for eligible reimbursement procedures.

This outline provides the minimum UST system release response and initial abatement requirements for responding to a confirmed UST system release outside of the excavation zone. This outline describes abatement procedures for UST facilities not currently undertaking corrective action activities. The cabinet reserves the right to require additional information if necessary. For terms not defined herein, the definitions in 401 KAR 42:005 shall apply.

If free product is encountered and confined within the excavation zone the owner or operator shall initiate free product recovery as necessary to prevent any further release of regulated substance into the environment. Recovery of free product from the excavation zone shall not be reimbursable unless directed and documented by the Environmental Response Team (ERT) under the terms of a declared emergency.

1.0 INITIAL RESPONSE

If a UST system release is confirmed, immediate response shall be performed as required by 401 KAR 42:060 to protect human health, safety and the environment. The UST system release shall be immediately reported to the cabinet and appropriate authorities at the local, state, or federal level. An attempt shall then be made to locate the source and eliminate any life threatening conditions that may result from a UST system release. Attention shall then be focused on preventing further UST system releases into the environment, determining the media affected by the UST system release, and determining the need for and type of any response measures required to abate the UST system release as required by written directive from the cabinet.

A status letter shall be submitted (e.g., e-mail, fax, etc.) to the cabinet within 48 hours of the release report, briefly outlining actions taken and proposed future actions. The status letter shall also include a site sketch indicating the location of the UST system release.

1.1 Reporting Requirements

A suspected or confirmed UST system release of any amount, or a suspected or confirmed aboveground release such as a spill or overfill of petroleum product(s) in excess of 25 gallons shall be reported immediately to the Environmental Response Team

at (800) 928-2380, or (502) 564-2380 in Frankfort. The Incident Number assigned to the release report shall be included in the initial abatement report. Any spill or overfill less than 25 gallons that cannot be cleaned up within 24 hours shall be reported to the Environmental Response Team.

1.2 Mitigate Explosion and Vapor Hazards

If it is determined that regulated substance(s) have entered the environment and could result in a fire or an explosion, the owner/operator shall identify and mitigate any and all fire, explosion and vapor hazards. If there is a danger of fire or explosion from a release of a regulated substance(s) or resulting vapors, contact the local fire department or disaster and emergency services as appropriate.

1.3 Prevention of Further UST System Releases

Owners and operators shall take any immediate action to prevent any further UST system release into the environment. If a tank is determined to be leaking, empty the tank and piping, and do not add any more product to it unless under professional guidance for overfill testing. If piping is determined to be leaking, take the suspect pump out of service. Never wash spilled regulated substance(s) into the sewer, and try to keep the spill from spreading, possibly by constructing berms or using absorbent materials.

1.4 Cleanup of Spills and Overfills

Owners and operators of UST system(s) shall contain and immediately cleanup a surface spill or overfill of a regulated substance that results in a UST system release to the environment. Construction of berms and/or the use of absorbent materials, pumping, or bailing, may reduce the amount of impact to the environment.

2.0 ADDITIONAL MEASURES

Written directives from the cabinet (in accordance with 401 KAR 42:060 and 40 CFR 280 Subpart F) may require, but are not limited to, the following:

- Remove the Product from the UST System
- Visually Inspect for UST System Releases
- Continue Monitoring for Fire or Safety Hazards
- Remedy any Hazards from Excavated or Exposed Contamination
- Measure for the Presence of a UST System Release
- Investigate for the Possible Presence of Free Product
- Initial Abatement Report
- Free Product Recovery and Disposal
- Abate Migration
- Free Product Recovery Report

NOTE: Tank owners or operators may proceed with additional initial abatement measures outlined in Section 2.0, prior to cabinet approval of costs, however costs incurred prior to cabinet approval shall not be reimbursable.